



Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2005 Southern Management Area

Ocean waters between 34°27' N. latitude (Point Conception) and the U.S.-Mexico Border



Species	Time Period ^{3, 4}	Depth Limit ^{2, 3}	Daily Bag Limit ³	Min. Size Limit ^{1, 3, 5}
RCG Complex (including all species of Rockfish, Cabezon and Greenlings as defined in Section 1.91)	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ⁴ : Open: Mar-Dec. Closed: Jan-Feb <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ⁴ : Open year-round	Mar: May only be taken/possessed in waters <i>between</i> 180 ft (30 fm) and 360 ft (60 fm) deep ² Apr-Aug, Nov-Dec: May only be taken/possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 360 ft (60 fm) deep ² Sep-Oct: May only be taken/possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 180 ft (30 fm) deep ² SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabezon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary and Yelloweye Rockfish, Cowcod	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabezon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	10 fish per person	none
California Sheephead	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	12" total length
California Scorpionfish	<u>Boat-based Anglers</u> ⁴ : Open: Oct-Dec Closed: Jan-Sept <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers</u> ⁴ : Open all year	Oct: May only be taken/possessed in <i>less than</i> 180 ft (30 fm) ² Nov-Dec: May only be taken/possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 360 ft (60 fm) ² SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	5 fish per person	10" total length

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Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers⁴</u> : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers⁴</u> : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec	Apr-Aug, Nov: May only be taken/possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 360 ft (60 fm) deep ² Sep-Oct: May only be taken/possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 180 ft (30 fm) deep ² SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	2 fish per person	24" total length
Other Federal Groundfish ⁶ (see list online at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/groundfish_fedlist.html)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Leopard Shark ⁷	<u>Boat-based Anglers⁴ within Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, San Diego Bay, and Mission Bay:</u> Open all year <u>Outside of the above-mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers⁴:</u> Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers⁴ within Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, San Diego Bay, and Mission Bay:</u> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of the above-mentioned bays:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers⁴:</u> No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.

2. In the Cowcod Conservation Areas fishing is prohibited in waters greater than 120 feet (20 fathoms). Fishing is also subject to the Time Period closures for the Southern Management Area.

3. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at (831) 649-2801, visit the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd, send an e-mail to AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.

4. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.

5. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. Check pg. 59 of the 2005 Ocean Sport Fishing regulations booklet or go to the Marine Region Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/measurement.pdf for a measurement illustration.

6. Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, sand sole, and starry flounder are exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish ONLY when taken using the following gear: up to 12 No. 2 (or smaller) hooks and up to 2 lb. of weight.

7. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Newport Bay, Alamitos Bay, San Diego Bay, and Mission Bay is exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

EXCEPTION: These fish may be possessed in waters deeper than specified only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water.

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